

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-06 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PA-02 USIA-15

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R 152147Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4774

UNCLAS OTTAWA 3384

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ELAB CA

SUBJECT: AIR TRANSPORTATION LABOR DISPUTES

1. SOME 300 ASSISTANT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS LAUNCHED STRIKE AT ALL MAJOR AIRPORTS OVER THREE DAY WEEK-END BASED ON DEMANDS TO HAVE JOBS UPGRADED FROM CLERICAL TO TECHNICAL JOB CLASSIFICATION. THIS WOULD ENTAIL 25 PERCENT INCREASE IN CURRENT C\$8,000 ANNUAL BASE RATE. AIR TRAFFIC REMAINS NORMAL THUS FAR SINCE FLIGHT PLAN PROCESSING FUNCTION OF ASSISTANT CONTROLLERS TAKEN OVER BY SENIOR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS AND MAJOR CARRIERS FLYING ON INSTRUMENTS REPORTEDLY NOT DEPENDENT ON FLIGHT PLAN INFORMATION. HOWEVER, SMALL AIRCRAFT RELYING ON VISUAL FLIGHT RULES MAY BE AFFECTED. LAST BARGAINING SESSION ON OCTOBER 10 WAS INCONCLUSIVE AND LED TO STRIKE ACTION WHICH IS OF QUESTIONABLE LEGALITY SINCE CONTRACT RUNS UNTIL NEXT FALL. NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, AT OTTAWA AND TORONTO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS ASSISTANT CONTROLLERS RETURNED TO WORK ON OCT 15.

2. WHAT APPEARED LAST WEEK TO BE IMMINENT STRIKE OF APPROXIMATELY 1,500 AIR CANADA PILOTS HAS BEEN AVERTED FOR TIME BEING AT LEAST WHEN CANADIAN AIRLINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION (CALPA) AGREED TO FURTHER

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NEGOTIATIONS THIS WEEK. CALPA PRESIDENT WRIGHT

ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 14 THAT NO STRIKE WILL OCCUR BEFORE
END OF OCTOBER IN ANY CASE AND MIGHT BE AVOIDED
ALTOGETHER. THE DISPUTE CENTERS AROUND NON-
ACCEPTANCE BY BOTH PARTIES OF CONCILIATION PROPOSAL
THAT PROVIDES FOR 10 PERCENT SALARY INCREASE
RETROACTIVE TO JUNE WHEN LAST CONTRACT EXPIRED,
PLUS 6 PERCENT EFFECTIVE NEXT APRIL WITH AN ADDITIONAL
FLAT C\$60 PER MONTH AS OF JUNE 1975. CONCILIATION
COMMISSIONER HARTT STATED PUBLICLY THAT RECOURSE TO
CONCILIATION PROCEDURE WAS PREMATURE THEREBY HAVING
KEPT BOTH SIDES FROM BARGAINING SERIOUSLY.
PORTER

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